

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A process for producing a hardenable composition with high storage stability containing scaly silica particles which consist essentially of foliar secondary silica particles and have a laminated structure, said process comprising:

(1) a step of subjecting a silica sol, a silica hydrogel or hydrous silicic acid to hydrothermal treatment in the presence of an alkali metal salt to form tertiary agglomerated particles of the scaly silica in the form of porous three-dimensional disorderly agglomerates of foliar secondary silica particles, each secondary particle being formed by a parallel face-to-face alignment of a plurality of flaky primary particles which are overlaid one on another, and

(2) a step of disintegrating and dispersing the tertiary agglomerated particles of silica in an organic polymer in the form of an aqueous emulsion by a wet method.